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# State of Utah

## DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

MICHAEL R. STYLER  
Executive Director

### Division of Oil, Gas and Mining

JOHN R. BAZA  
Division Director

May 19, 2014

Weber County Planning Division  
2380 Washington Blvd., Suite 240  
Ogden, Utah 84401

Subject: Request for Determination of Post-mining Status of Facilities, Compass Minerals, Great Salt Lake Minerals Facility, M/057/0002, Weber County, Utah

Dear Sir or Madame:

The Division of Oil Gas and Mining (Division) is requesting a determination by the Weber County Planning Division on the desired status of buildings and infrastructure that may remain after the completion of mining operations by Great Salt Lake Minerals (GSLM) located in the western part of Weber County (County). This area was formerly known as the Little Mountain Mine and encompasses approximately 500 acres of land within an area zoned by the County as M-3, manufacturing, with a proposed land use as an Industrial Park.

The Division normally requires reclamation of all surface facilities associated with a mine once mining operations have ceased. However, during the review process for the Notice of Intention to Commence Large Mining Operations (NOI)—essentially a mining and reclamation plan—conducted in 1982-1983, GSLM requested a variance from the Division allowing them to not reclaim the building facilities area and to leave them as marketable and saleable structures to be subsequently used by any buyer who may desire to establish operations in this area. A written resolution endorsing the variance was provided by the Weber County Industrial Development Corporation. A copy of this document is enclosed.

As a condition of final approval, a public announcement ("Order to Show Cause") was published by the Board of Oil, Gas and Mining to solicit public comment on the NOI. This public announcement is also enclosed. In this order, the following condition was listed:

The 500 acre plant site and structures on Little Mountain are part of a zoned and regulated industrial park and are marketable as such for continued use. The area will not be returned to its original condition.

There were no recorded dissenting opinions to the approval of the NOI related to not reclaiming the plant facilities. The variance request was granted to GSLM as part of the final approval of the NOI in 1983. This variance in no way exempts GSLM from reclaiming the evaporation ponds, dikes, pump stations, brine conveyance ditches and canals, borrow pits and quarries, or other facilities not within the central operations plant in the industrial park area. The approved reclamation plan addresses these features.



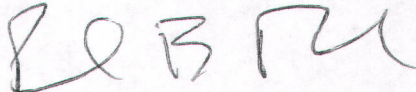
Page 2 of 2  
Weber County Planning Division  
M/057/0002  
May 19, 2014

Additional buildings have been constructed since the original approval in 1983, including the main office, a warehouse, several smaller buildings and some additional processing and material storage facilities, and supporting infrastructure. Though these buildings are part of the facilities in the area of the processing plant, it is not clear whether Weber County would support allowing these buildings to remain following mining.

The Division requests that the Weber County Planning Division provide to the Division, in writing, its opinion regarding the facilities constructed after 1983. Is it acceptable for these facilities to remain as marketable real estate for subsequent industrial use following reclamation of the rest of the site?

If you have any questions or wish to discuss this further, please contact me at (801) 538-5261, or the lead inspector for Weber County, Mike Bradley, at (801) 538-5332.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'P. Baker'.

Paul Baker  
Minerals Mining Manager  
Minerals Regulatory Program

PBB: mpb: eb

Enclosure: 1983 Resolution from the Weber County Industrial Development Corporation  
1983 Public Notice publication from the Utah Board of Oil, Gas and Mining

cc: Joseph Havasi, Compass Minerals

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